

IS THERE A WRONG WAY TO PRAY?

LUKE 18:9-14

OBJECTIVE:

God doesn't care when, where or what we pray about. Furthermore, He isn't interested in the volume, length or how big the words are that we use. He just wants to have a conversation with us!

MATERIALS:

- Broom
- 2 balloons per grandchild ((Note: Balloons are choking hazards; therefore, we recommend that an adult blows up the balloons.)

LESSON::

1. Complete the Prayer Chart, which is attached at the bottom of the page (page 3). Discuss the fact that we can pray anytime, anywhere and about anything without being afraid that we will say anything wrong.
2. Play "Hot Air Hockey."
 - A. Build an obstacle in the back yard. (The course needs to have a specific start and finish. Obstacles can include chairs, small tables, bicycles, flowerpots, wheelbarrows, etc.)
 - B. Place one of the balloons on the starting line.
 - C. Stand beside the balloon with a broom in hand.
 - D. Race the clock to see how fast you can move the balloon from the start to the finish line, using only the broom to move it.
 - E. Note: If the balloon breaks, you need to get a new balloon, return to the starting line and begin again.

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LESSON cont.

3. Read Luke 18:9-14 (Comparison of the prayers of the Pharisee and the tax collector)
4. Discussion questions:
 - A. What is a Pharisee? (A religious leader)
 - B. How did the Pharisee pray? (He bragged about himself and looked down on the tax collector. He was praying more to himself than to God.)
 - C. What is a tax collector? (A Jew who was hired by the Romans to collect taxes from the town folk. Tax collectors were often dishonest. Naturally, they were hated by their neighbors.)
 - D. How did the tax collector pray? (He was humble and repentant, speaking honestly with God about his sin.)
 - E. What can we learn from this lesson? (God wants us to talk with Him whenever, wherever and about any subject. The only "wrong way" to pray is with dishonesty, arrogance and pride.)
5. Close in Prayer.

b.

